



CITY COUNCIL

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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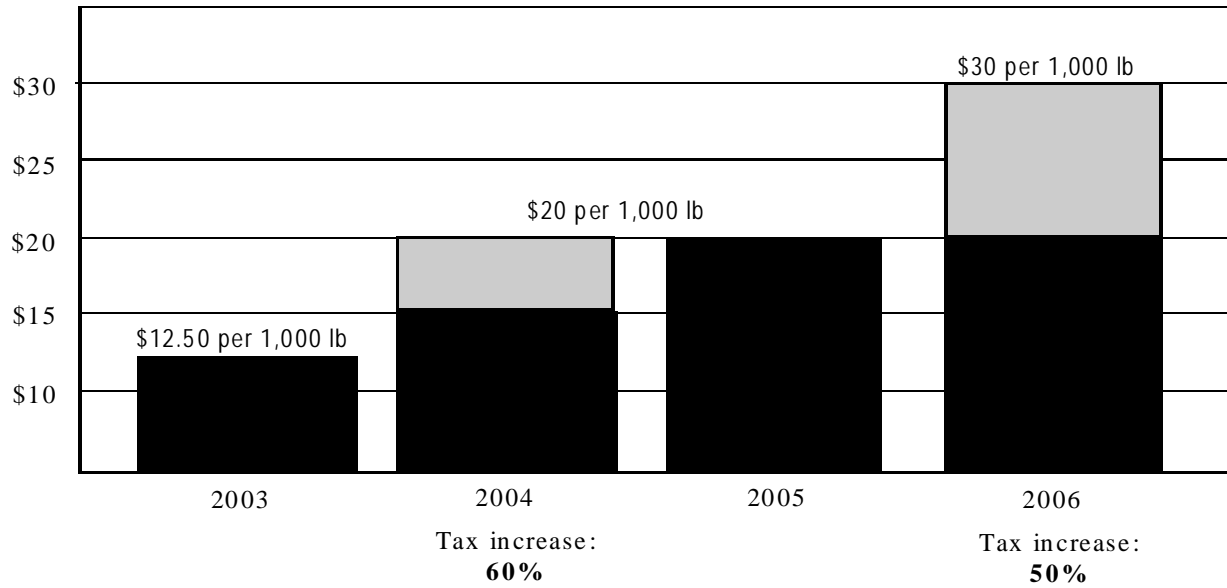
COUNCILMEMBER DJOU: 50% VEHICLE TAX INCREASE KICKS IN TODAY

Today, Oahu residents will start to pay more to drive as the vehicle tax goes up by 50% from \$20/1,000 lbs. to \$30/1,000 lbs. Just three years ago, the City vehicle tax was only \$12.50/1,000 lbs.

Councilmember Charles K. Djou (Waikiki, East Honolulu) stated, "City taxpayers simply can not afford to pay more taxes again and again every time the City government wants to increase spending at rates four or even five times that of inflation. The City raised taxes each and every year for the past three years and the taxpayers are now feeling the pinch. We must finally realize that our City government must do more to hold down spending."

In addition to the vehicle tax increase, Oahu residents last week received their new real property tax assessments, which increased by 26% and will bring over \$80 million in additional revenue to the City government. Councilmember Djou is the only member of the City Council to vote against all of the recent tax increases, including both the 50% increase in the 2006 vehicle tax and the 60% increase in 2004. In August, the City Council also voted to increase the general excise tax by 12.5%, which will cost the average family an additional \$450 per year starting Jan. 1, 2007.

PASSENGER VEHICLE TAX 1/1/2003 TO 1/1/2006



TAX PER VEHICLE TYPE - 2003, 2004, 2006

